

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** October 13, 2011

**Agenda Item:** Proposed Fishing Regulation Changes for 2012-2015

**Division:** Fish and Wildlife (Fisheries)

**Action Needed:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Approval of Proposed (Tentative) Rule**    **X**    **Approval of Final Rule/Action**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Endorse Course of Action**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **None - information only**

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 45 minutes

**Background:** The fishing regulation process is based on a four-year cycle, and during the first year of every cycle (such as 2012) the FWP embarks on a thorough review of its fishing regulations. As part of this review, staff is directed to propose ways to simplify and standardize regulations, within individual waterbodies, regions or statewide. The public is also solicited for ideas on how to standardize and simplify, as well as other regulation changes they may wish to see adopted.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** The proposed fishing regulation changes for 2012-2015 were approved by the FWP Commission on August 18 for a 30-day public comment period. During the comment period, FWP received XXX comments via an online survey, XX comments by regular email, and another XX comments by handwritten letter. In addition, 12 open houses were held around the state soliciting comment. Based on a review of these comments, FWP staff modified XX of the regulation proposals and have incorporated these changes into the attached regulation package.

**Alternatives and Analysis:** The Proposed Regulation Changes for 2012-2015 list each proposed regulation change individually, and indicate if they are a change or deletion of an existing regulation, or create a new regulation. New language is indicated in italics and old language is indicated with a strikethrough. A rationale is then provided for each proposed change, along with relevant public opinion. In addition, a summary of comments received during the public comment period from August 19-September 19 is also provided in a separate attachment.

**Agency Recommendation & Rationale:** XX number of the regulation changes proposed here are considered to be a simplification or standardization of existing regulations (primarily by deleting regulation exceptions for bag limits or sections of waterbodies). Another XX number of regulations are proposed for conservation purposes, and XX regulations are proposed for clarification purposes. Numerous other proposals came from the public that were not incorporated into these Proposed regulations. These ideas have been forwarded to Regional staff for consideration at a future time.

**Proposed Motion:** I move to adopt the department's proposed regulation changes for the 2012-2015 fishing seasons.